

INFORMATION PAPER

1. **PURPOSE:** To provide guidance to Military Components on Installation requirements for training actions that Utilize Water.

2. **INFORMATION:**

a. To protect and preserve Fort Drum's resources we must abide within the State and Federal water and wetlands laws and regulations. The rivers on Fort Drum reservation are used for recreation and fishing. The wetlands play a very important role in fisheries and wildlife. Installation aquifers supplement drinking water supplies for Fort Drum and other villages along our boundaries. It is because of these many aspects that unit activities are required to comply with the applicable laws and regulations.

b. Sensitive areas (streams, ponds, and wetlands) are within some of the training areas. Units must avoid disturbance of these areas by using the available bridges or going around, **NOT** through, the streams and wetlands. Units requiring wetlands for training must coordinate with the Environmental Division prior to action as state and federal permits may be required. Coordinate with RBC Combat Readiness Training Division (CRTD) (formerly DPTMSEC Range Division) and PW Environmental Division through the Record of Environmental Consideration (REC) process.

c. Field mess operations require prior approval from the Environmental Division and Range Control. Each activity will be handled on a case-by-case basis through the environmental review process that is triggered when a REC is submitted.

d. Laundry/Bath points have been constructed in the field. A REC is required to monitor usage and check proper functional operations of the facility.

e. Disposal of waste waters, a.k.a. 'grey water', from Field Mess Operations and Laundry Bath Operations are handled on a case-by-case basis and must have approval of the Environmental Division and Range Control (REC required).

f. Water from sanitizing water containers (i.e., water buffalos, blivets, etc.) will be disposed of at a designated drop-off point, contact the PW, Plumbing Shop at 2-4168 for guidance. Prior coordination is appreciated.

g. Decontamination and water quality activities require a REC. Use of chemicals is not permitted without pre-coordination and written approval of the Environmental Division (REC form required).

h. Only the Central Vehicle Wash Rack (i.e., off tank trail west of the WSAAF) or within the maintenance bay of motor pools equipped with an oil/water separator are approved facilities where units can wash military vehicles. Steam cleaning of engine compartments is acceptable at these facilities but not in a field situation. Soaps shall not be used as they emulsify oils and defeat the purpose of the oil/water separator.

3. **CONCLUSION:** If you find yourself with field activities that you believe might degrade or jeopardize the water quality of Fort Drum and or the surrounding community you must stop

operations immediately and contact the PW Environmental Division at (315) 772-7178/5110; DSN 772 (as of 10/01/01), for guidance or assistance.